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February 28, 2014

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## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 48

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the importance of all schools and libraries being equipped with high-capacity, high-speed broadband connectivity.

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**Kruse, Broden**

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February 20, 2014, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.  
February 27, 2014, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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SR 48—RR 3534/DI lb

February 28, 2014

Second Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2014)

## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 48

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1       A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the importance of  
2       all schools and libraries being equipped with high-capacity,  
3       high-speed broadband connectivity.

4       *Whereas, February 5, 2014, marked national Digital*  
5       *Learning Day, bringing to the forefront the broadband*  
6       *imperative currently facing schools and libraries in all*  
7       *communities across the state of Indiana;*

8       *Whereas, Broadband has become the enabling technology*  
9       *of the modern learning environment, is now as vital to schools*  
10       *as brick and mortar infrastructure and utilities, and has the*  
11       *power to transform classrooms and transmit information,*  
12       *helping to support students in acquiring 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills and*  
13       *making learning environments more engaging and relevant;*

14       *Whereas, Broadband and other technology tools have the*  
15       *ability to increase education capacity as well through online*  
16       *academies, project-based and personalized learning, AP and*  
17       *dual credit, and STEM initiatives;*

18       *Whereas, Increased broadband utilization will also improve*  
19       *the efficiency of data management and information sharing by*

SR 48—RR 3534/DI lb



1 *schools with parents and community stakeholders, as teacher*  
2 *evaluations can be moved online to provide immediate feedback*  
3 *to help improve classroom instruction, and parents can be more*  
4 *readily informed about their students' academic progress;*

5 *Whereas, Libraries benefit from high-speed broadband*  
6 *connectivity as well, as they have notably become community*  
7 *resource centers of digital information where people can learn*  
8 *about healthcare, e-government services, search for available*  
9 *jobs, and more;*

10 *Whereas, Despite this need, school and library budgets are*  
11 *constrained by inflation and other expenses, the state school*  
12 *and library connectivity grant only addresses ten percent of the*  
13 *costs for the local portion of the requests for these services, and*  
14 *thus affordability and funding remain a barrier to securing*  
15 *broadband services; and*

16 *Whereas, If Indiana's bold educational initiatives,*  
17 *including creating thriving students and a high-tech workforce,*  
18 *are to become successful and sustainable, the state must*  
19 *prioritize in terms of providing the necessary funding for*  
20 *schools and libraries to receive adequate broadband:*  
21 *Therefore,*

22 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*  
23 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

24 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate recognizes the broadband  
25 imperative facing schools and libraries in all communities across the  
26 state of Indiana.

27 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to  
28 transmit copies of this Resolution to the Executive Directors of the  
29 Indiana State Library, the Indiana Library Federation, the Indiana  
30 Association of School Business Officials, the Indiana Association of  
31 Public School Superintendents, the Indiana School Boards  
32 Association, the Indiana Urban Schools Association, the Indiana

SR 48—RR 3534/DI lb



- 1 Rural and Small Schools Association, the Indiana Association of
- 2 School Principals, the Consortium on School Networking, the
- 3 Indiana Chief Technology Officers Council, the Indiana Federation
- 4 of Teachers, and the Indiana State Teachers Association.



## COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Education, to which was referred Senate Resolution No. 48, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said resolution be AMENDED as follows:

Page 1, line 18, delete "capacity" and insert "*utilization*".

Page 2, line 5, delete "high-capacity,".

Page 2, delete lines 10 through 12.

Page 2, line 18, delete "adequate bandwidth capacity;" and insert "*broadband services;*".

Page 2, line 22, delete "investing in a robust, fiber-based network".

Page 2, delete line 23.

Page 2, line 24, delete "technology with" and insert "*providing*".

Page 2, line 24, delete ":" and insert "*for schools and libraries to receive adequate broadband:*".

(Reference is to SR 48 as introduced.)

KRUSE, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0.

